

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 80, No. 4

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

DECEMBER 15, 2016

## Maryland Local Tax Mix-Up Includes Bill for Greenbelt

by Kathleen Gallagher

On Thursday, November 17, Marylanders awoke to find articles in their major area newspapers reporting that the day before, Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot announced that his office had unintentionally misdirected \$21.4 million in local income tax revenues to state municipalities from 2010 through 2014, sending too much to some, too little to others.

According to the Baltimore Sun, the problem first became apparent in September, when state auditors reported that the comptroller's office had sent \$8.7 million to the wrong municipalities in Montgomery County. In a statement published on the comptroller's office website, Franchot

said that as soon as the Montgomery issue was discovered by the internal auditors, he immediately arranged for an outside auditor to evaluate the extent and sources of the problem.

That audit, which was completed recently, identified an additional \$12.7 million that had been misassigned of the total \$14.9 billion in local taxes collected over the five-year period by the state on behalf of municipalities. According to the Washington Post, almost all of the incorporated local governments will soon receive either a reimbursement check or a bill for repayment. Only the City of Baltimore, which has the status

of a county, is unaffected. The other cities waited to receive notification on whether they should expect a visit from Santa or the Grinch.

So what about Greenbelt? Will it be Santa or the Grinch? The bad news is that it's the Grinch. The good news is that it's not a very big Grinch. In fact, it's one described by City Treasurer Jeffrey Williams as having "a negligible impact on the city."

Greenbelt was overpaid by approximately \$104,000 over the five-year period. In order to minimize the problem for those

See **TAX MIX-UP**, page 8

## Sanctuary City Status, Voting Age of 16 debated by Council

by Kathleen Gallagher

At its November 28 regular meeting, the Greenbelt City Council made its way through a fairly workaday agenda, attacking early in the meeting the review and approval of more than 30 sets of minutes for meetings dating back as far as March. More than the usual number of meetings were held over the period primarily due to the need to hold closed sessions to discuss personnel matters related to the search for a new city manager.

### Requests

Two residents made requests of council at the Petitions and

Requests section of the meeting. Valerie Orlando spoke of the University of Maryland's interest in becoming a sanctuary campus and suggested Greenbelt look into becoming a sanctuary city. Councilmember Judith Davis commented that Greenbelt informally followed those practices but had not taken formal action on it. A sanctuary city is one that has formally adopted a policy of not prosecuting undocumented immigrants for violation of federal immigration laws.

Resident Colin Byrd supported Orlando's proposal and also re-

quested that the city revise the city charter to provide that the candidate with the highest number of votes automatically be named mayor, rather than providing that the newly elected council vote to appoint the mayor and mayor pro tem. It should be noted that there has been only one election in Greenbelt that did not result in the highest vote-getter being named mayor, and that was because the highest vote-getter declined.

### Legislation

Three pieces of legislation were introduced for first reading. A resolution to amend the Taxation chapter of the City Code would authorize the city to pay a supplement to Greenbelt residents who qualify to receive a state renters' tax credit available to low income renters. Eligibility for the state program is based on household income, net worth, and

See **COUNCIL**, page 8

## American Education Week November 14 to 18

In celebration of American education, these columns tell the stories of selected teachers from the schools serving the Greenbelt community. This week readers will get a glimpse inside Dora Kennedy French Immersion School.

The stories feature two teachers or staff members at each school; these are coordinated by David Lange who originated the series, Pamela Gregory who liaises with the schools and Alice Murray who works with the reporters.

## Brooks Inspires Students From Many Backgrounds

by Jim Link

The buzz and hum at Dora Kennedy French Immersion School, the snap and crackle of its "Frenchiness" was palpable even before I talked to the two staff members recommended to me by Principal Parfait Owono.

Flags of French-speaking countries festoon the hallways: Senegal, Haiti, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Canada, Belgique. Posters of Henri Matisse's Icarus and Renoir's Dance at Le Moulin de la Galette enhance the French cachet.

Susan Brooks, a 40-year veteran of teaching English language arts in Prince George's County, the last 18 years at Dora Kennedy, enthusiastically boosts the French immersion program.

"The students are saturated in French in kindergarten and first grade. By the time they come to me in fourth grade they are thinking in French. It's amazing, really. On the playground they cry and argue and play in another language! Very impressive,"

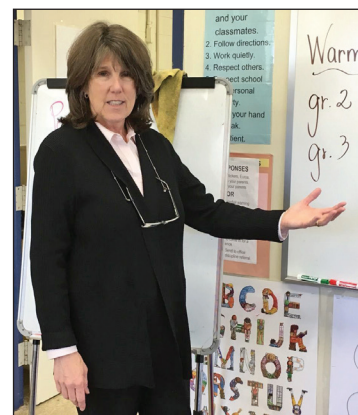


PHOTO BY ALICE LARUSSO

English Language Arts teacher Susan Brooks

Brooks laughs.

Brooks teaches 92 children through four periods a day – second, third, fourth and fifth grades for one hour each. No surprise, her preparatory work is enormous. "Oh yes, I grade papers, plan lessons, everything's done on computer. I live in Berwyn Heights" (near Dora Kennedy,

See **BROOKS**, page 5

## School Nurse Uses Visits As Teachable Moments

by Jim Link

I noticed Nurse Tommie, as school nurse Anne T. Schoendorf is affectionately known, dispensing her healing touch even before I entered her "health suite" (not sick room). Waiting in the lobby I could see her tying the shoelaces of a little girl clutching a Thanksgiving pumpkin. "OK, friend, I think you're ready to go." A concerned little boy blew past me up to Nurse Tommie. "What are you doing back here for the third time, my friend?"

When my turn came Nurse Tommie made me comfortable under her Bienvenue L'Infirmierie (welcome to the infirmary) sign and told me she has been a pediatric nurse since 1984, a school nurse for the last 15 years at three French immersion schools in Prince George's County.

The students number between 650 and 700, and Nurse Tommie gets 50 to 70 visits per day. "Not every complaint is a huge crisis, but they don't know that. I still have to assess everything and gauge the seriousness of



PHOTO BY ALICE LARUSSO

Professional school nurse Tommie Schoendorf, R.N., B.S.N.

each situation. The child might tell me 'I got a boo boo on the playground' or she might come just to say hello.

"With so many kids coming, I sometimes have to do a little triaging. If a child has trouble breathing I'll see him immediately, probably call 911. The others can wait."

Nurse Tommie has a wondrously positive attitude toward each visit, whether the child is seriously ill or not. Each visit becomes "a teachable moment. The

See **SCHOENDORF**, page 5

## ERHS Basketball Win



PHOTO BY WILLIAM CORNETT

#21 Marquise Certain goes in for a layup in the Eleanor Roosevelt win over Northwestern on Tuesday night. Final score: Raiders 58, Wildcats 56.



# Letters to the Editor

## Roosevelt Center Roofs

Does anyone know how movement can be made on the deplorable conditions of the Roosevelt Center roofs? It appears we are being held prisoner by an absent owner while the buildings crumble around us. One shouldn't have to carry an umbrella just to use the bathroom.

Several businesses have leaks. I spoke with the Co-op, the lawyer's office, the mini mart and bakery. All have roof leaks either large or small. MakerSpace has at least 10 leaks that require buckets to be placed around the room. Patrons dance in a zig zag to avoid being rained on. We also have a lot of valuable equipment that could be destroyed because of the constant spray coming from the ceiling.

Water finds the path of least resistance. In the bathroom, it's leaking through the light socket. Does anyone think that might be an electrical hazard?

There are other problems with the buildings too. Broken windows, outside lights that don't work, pests, heating and cooling concerns, etc.

What can be done?

Jennifer Page

## City Solar Options

The City of Greenbelt Green Team's Solar Circle invites you to a public worksession with city council where we will brief council on options for the city to use solar energy.

Come join us to show your support of clean, solar energy and learn what we are proposing. The worksession will be held in council chambers on the second floor of the Municipal Building on Monday, December 19, starting at 8 p.m.

John Lippert, Chair  
Green ACES/  
Greenbelt Green Team

## Organic Recycling

Thank you for the excellent newspaper on November 17. Much space was given to zero waste and sustainability, with excellent articles by Susan Barnett, Erin Josephitis, Amy Hansen, Connor Roessler and Tom Taylor. I also look forward to the almost weekly articles by Connor Roessler, a Chesapeake Conservation Corp employee at the Department of Public Works.

I did want to clarify a few concepts that may not be clear to readers.

First, although I applaud the Co-op Supermarket for carrying compostable products (in a special display), these products are actually not (yet) compostable in

Greenbelt. They require the heat of a commercial sized facility in order to break down (especially cups and utensils). We do not currently have collections in Greenbelt to bring large quantities of compostable plates, cups, bags and utensils to a commercial facility such as the facility run by Veteran Compost or the county run facility at Western Branch. So for now all of those compostable products need to get thrown in our trash. On the bright side, trashing these items is still better than the alternative plastic plates and cups. Although alternative items may be recyclable, plastic is a petroleum product, made from fossil fuels. Using plastic contributes to climate change.

Although a few households may drive their residential compostables to MOM's (My Organic Market) in College Park, this is not a practical solution for a city of our size. To be clear, MOM's does not compost food scraps on site. They have a hauling company that takes the food scraps to a commercial compost facility nearby.

The same holds true for the NatureTRAY(tm) food trays used by the Co-op. These are not compostable or recyclable here in Greenbelt because they are made of a plant base, not a paper base. They also need to be thrown in the trash.

Second, the exciting Jim Cas-sell Award this year was somewhat vaguely described. My understanding is that the city will set up special bins next to the recycling bins near Buddy Attick Park. These bins will be for special items, such as juice boxes, energy bar wrappers, chip bags, Brita filters, toothpaste tubes, etc. The city will send these items to a company that will turn them into new items, such as purses, bags, boxes, etc. This is called upcycling. I am eager to find out which items will be accepted once the special bins are set up. Perhaps the Co-op and some of the faith communities will set up convenient collection locations within their facilities as well and then bring the items to Buddy Attick Park. This whole idea was inspired by Marjorie Gray, who provided collection bins at this year's Green Man Festival.

I understand that in the near future, the Department of Public Works will be setting up a "hot compost" bin system. Hopefully this will allow a small number of Greenbelt residents to drop off food scraps (but not compostable dishware) on a regular basis.

I hope this clears up a few issues.

Lore Rosenthal



## Send Holiday Greetings

The News Review will publish holiday greetings in the December 22 issue.

## GHI Notes

Thursday, December 15, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Board Room

Friday, December 16, office closed. For emergency maintenance service call 301-474-6011.

Monday, December 19, 7 p.m., Pre-purchase Orientation, Board Room

Tuesday, December 20, 7 p.m., Audit Committee Meeting, Board Room

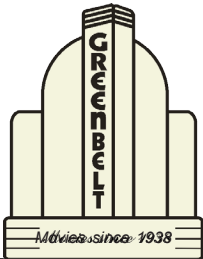
Monday, December 26, office closed. Emergency maintenance service available.

## Are You Looking For Your Letter?

If you don't see it, it could be because you didn't sign it and didn't give us a telephone number where we could reach you.

All letters must be signed and the letter writer's name, address and telephone number should be typed or clearly printed.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, taste and clarity. Letters are considered accepted when published.



Old Greenbelt Theatre  
129 Centerway  
301-329-2034  
www.greenbelttheatre.org

Members always \$6.50!  
Adults \$9, Senior/Student \$8, Members \$6.50, Kids \$6  
All shows before 5 PM:  
Adults \$7, Members \$6.50, Kids \$5  
OC = Open Captions  
CC = Closed Captions

SHOWTIMES  
Dec 16 – Dec 22

THE EAGLE HUNTRESS  
(G) (CC) (87 mins)  
Fri. & Sat. 3:00, 7:45 PM  
Sun. 12:45 (OC), 5:15 PM  
Mon. & Tues. 7:45 PM  
Wed. 3:00, 7:45 PM  
Thurs. 7:45 PM

LOVING  
(PG-13) (CC) (123 mins)  
Fri. & Sat. 5:15PM  
Sun. 2:45 PM  
Mon. - Thurs. 5:15 PM

Family Series:  
MIRACLE ON 34th STREET  
(1947) (G) (CC) (96 mins)  
Sat. 1:00 PM



## News Review Carriers Envelopes Coming Soon



News Review carriers will be chilled to the bone as they deliver this week's newspaper door to door. Warm up their chilly noses and toeses by using the envelope distributed with this week's paper to send them a generous tip. Watch out for the News Review envelope and don't mix it up with the Other Newspaper's envelope (which has already been distributed).

This year's News Review envelopes are printed in green and have 'Greenbelt News Review' and the year 2016 printed on them.

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Elaine Skolnik, President, 1977-1985  
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Greenbelt East: Contact Condominium Homeowner's Association

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cathie Meetre, president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Deanna Dawson, secretary; Tom Jones and Sylvia Lewis.

Business Manager: Mary Halford

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and Classified Ads—8 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Tuesday if camera ready. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Center, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 10 p.m.

## On Screen

## The Sky's the Limit

The Eagle Huntress is a paean to girl power. Move over Katniss and make way for Aisholpan, a 13-year-old Kazakh hunter. Under the tutelage of her patient father Nurgaiv, Aisholpan becomes the first girl to compete against 70 male eagle hunters.

This documentary directed by Otto Bell revels in spectacular imagery of the Central Asian steppes and vertiginous aerial shots.

Can Aisholpan tame her raptor ally and hunt better than the big boys? The sky is one very high glass ceiling to break.

Rating: G  
Running time: 1 hour, 27 min.  
Language: English and Kazakh with English subtitles  
Coming to Old Greenbelt Theatre Friday, December 16

- Jim Link



# Community Events

## Interfaith Group Meets December 21

A new interfaith group to address the need to support each other during this time of uncertainty will meet on Wednesday, December 21 at 8 p.m. at Mishkan Torah at 10 Ridge Road. The group held compassionate discussions in October at the Adelphi Friends Meeting and in November at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church. Light refreshments will be available after the discussion. For further information contact Marge Owens at [lowellandmarge@verizon.net](mailto:lowellandmarge@verizon.net).

## Events at MakerSpace

Two robotics teams will be competing this weekend. It's all about practice and preparations at the MakerSpace.

Thursday, December 15: Robotics Team LEGO Turtle Army is celebrating its competition last weekend from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Minecraft Club meets from 7 to 8 p.m.

Friday, December 16: The Labradoodle Team will be rehearsing for their competition on Saturday from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 17: FLL Team 3 meets from noon to 2 p.m. (The Labradoodles and the Crow-bots will be competing at South River High School.)

Sunday, December 18: Animation Meetup from 2 to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, December 20: Open Projects

Wednesday, December 21: Fiber Enthusiasts will be competing in the Pub Quiz (at New Deal Café) from 7 to 9 p.m.

## Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208 ext. 4215.

All meals include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for the week of December 19 are as follows:

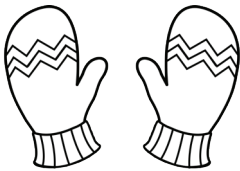
Monday, December 19: Salsa chicken, cilantro lime rice, Brussels sprouts, wheat roll, sliced peaches, apple juice.

Tuesday, December 20: Country fried steak with country gravy, whipped potatoes, sliced carrots, wheat bread, tropical fruit, grape juice.

Wednesday, December 21: BBQ pork rib patty, baked beans, rosy pears, coleslaw, wheat hamburger bun, orange juice.

Thursday, December 22: Creamy paprika chicken, garlic rotini, ratatouille, wheat bread, spiced apples, cranberry juice.

Friday, December 23: All sites closed, homebound meals at Camp Springs.



More Community Events  
are located throughout  
the paper.

## Reel & Meal Dec. 19 At the New Deal

On Monday, December 19, the Reel & Meal at the New Deal film series presents Requiem for the American Dream. In this 2015 documentary, Noam Chomsky, the well-known activist, talks about the growing inequality of wealth and power in America. He outlines a half century of policies that favor the very wealthy at the expense of the working and middle classes. He points out how these policies have sabotaged the American dream that all Americans can achieve prosperity through hard work. The film deploys plain language and appealing graphics to challenge the notion of the U.S. as the land of opportunity. The free film show will start at 7 p.m. at the New Deal Café.

The film helps shed light on why so many voted for big changes in this year's elections. It raises questions about what we can do about racial and class inequality. What are the prospects for an effective popular movement that serves the interests of most Americans? Helping explore these questions will be Jarrid Green, a research associate of the Democracy Collaborative, which works to build a more equitable, sustainable and democratic economic system. His research focuses on community stewardship of land and housing via grassroots organizations led by people of color and representatives of low-income communities.

This month's program is planned by the Prince George's County Peace & Justice Coalition. Other sponsors of the monthly Reel & Meal series are Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group and Green Vegan Networking. For more information contact [justpeacepg@earthlink.net](mailto:justpeacepg@earthlink.net) or Lucy Duff at 301-577-2350.

## CoDA Meets Wednesdays

Co-Dependents Anonymous meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Church, in the Nursery Building to the rear of the property. CoDA is a 12-step recovery program for adults. More information can be found at [CoDA.org](http://CoDA.org) or by calling 410-336-3942.

## Star Party Saturday December 17

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a star party, free and open to the public, on Saturday evening, December 17 at the City Observatory located at Northway Fields. With the Observatory telescope we will start by observing Venus and Mars, and then move on to nebulae, star clusters and galaxies (including the Sculptor Galaxy). As always, visitors are welcome to set up their own telescopes on the hill. Neptune and Uranus will be up. The moon will not be up, so it will be dark.

Observing will begin at around 6 p.m. and continue for at least two hours. Attendees are asked to park in the ballfield lot, not up on the hill, unless bringing a telescope. The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy.

## At the Library

All Prince George's County Memorial Library System branches will be closed from Friday, December 23 through Monday, December 26 for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day holidays. The Greenbelt Branch Library will reopen on Tuesday, December 27 at 1 p.m.

Weekly Ready 2 Read Storytimes. Wednesday, December 21: ages 3 to 5, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m., limit 20 people. Thursday, December 22: ages newborn to 2, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m., limit 15 babies with parent(s)/caregiver(s); ages 2 to 3, 4:15 p.m., limit 20 people.

All county library branches will be closed from Friday, December 30 through Monday, January 2 for the New Year's Eve and New Year's Day holidays. The Greenbelt Branch Library will reopen on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 1 p.m.

## Toastmasters Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club will meet on Wednesday, December 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall of Greenbelt Community Church at Hillside and Crescent Roads. The group offers professionals, students, stay-at-home parents and retirees a supportive environment to improve skills in communication and leadership.

## Christmas Concert At Mowatt Friday

Mowatt United Methodist Church will hold its third annual Christmas concert Friday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m.

A colorful tapestry of beautiful sounds, What Sweeter Music: A Cantata for Christmas by John Leavitt, will be performed by the Mowatt Remarkable Celebration Choir joined by a chamber orchestra. This magical evening of music and fellowship will leave attendees feeling the holiday spirit and humming familiar tunes with a spring in their step. Light refreshments will follow. For more information, call 301-474-9210.

## Kids' Open Mic At New Deal Café

There will be a kids' open mic at the New Deal Café on Sunday, December 18 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. The open mic takes place on the third Sunday of every month. Those ages 17 and under are invited to play a musical instrument, sing, dance, juggle, recite a poem or otherwise perform. This is not a talent show but an opportunity for kids to showcase and practice their skills in an informal, family-friendly atmosphere. Walk-ins are welcome.

Contact Becky at [bbholober@comcast.net](mailto:bbholober@comcast.net) for more information or questions.



## City Notes

Animal Control Staff reported an opossum was released from a trap, one injured opossum was caught and one snake was removed from a resident's home.

Horticulture/Parks crews equipped and tested vehicles with snow plows and magnesium spreader, which is an environmentally-friendly alternative to salt.

Facilities Maintenance crews installed neutral identity signs for the single stall restrooms in all city buildings.



PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN

All single stall restrooms in city buildings are now gender neutral.

The Bus  
Seniors and Customers with  
Disabilities RIDE FREE

Utopia Film Festival Presents  
Sunday, Dec. 18th, Weds., Dec. 21st & Fri., Dec. 23rd  
Beginning at 8 PM

“Project Happiness,” “Glow,”  
“Searching for Green,” “The Human Factor,”  
and “Superdate (2014)”

On Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)  
Comcast 77 & Verizon Fios 19 Channels

## Greenbelt Arts Center LAST CHANCE TO SEE

### SEUSSICAL



by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty  
Directed by Jon Gardner, Music Directed by Mac Fancher  
Choreographed by Rikki Howie Lacewell, Circus coached by Laura Adams

December 16, 17 at 8PM  
The Dec 18 at 2PM SHOW IS SOLD OUT!  
FINAL SHOWS ARE SELLING OUT FAST!

RUSH TO [WWW.GREENBELTARTSCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.GREENBELTARTSCENTER.ORG)  
FOR TICKETS

Ticket prices: \$25 General Admission, \$22 Students/Seniors/Military,  
\$14 Youth (12 and under with adult)

### COMING SOON

New Year's Evening with Friends - Dec 31, 2016  
A Visit from Scarface - Jan 20 - Feb 11, 2017 - Directed by Keith Brown

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or  
email: [info@greenbeltartscenter.org](mailto:info@greenbeltartscenter.org) or  
BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)

[www.greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com)

## Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)

2nd Floor, Greenbelt Community Center, Suite 204  
[www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org) • Studio: 301-507-6581

### Free and Open to the Public

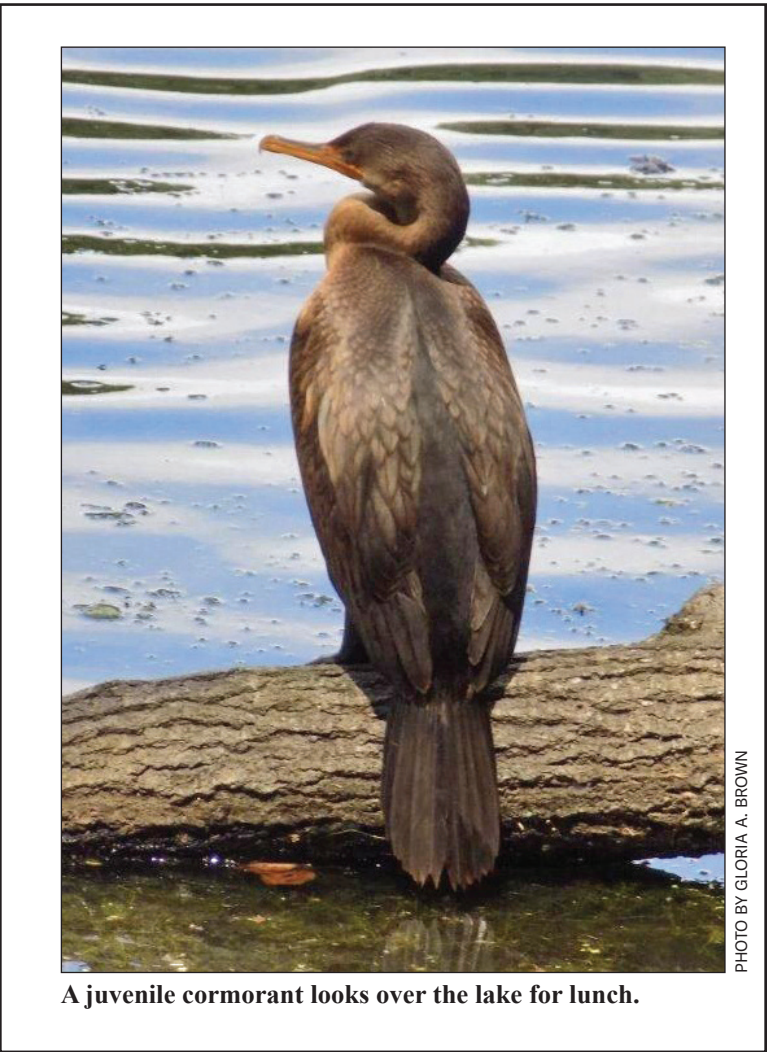
Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, December 20th, 7:30PM  
GATe Studio

### Holiday Hours:

Open – Saturday, December 24, 10-12Noon  
Closed – Sunday, Christmas Day  
Open – Monday, December 26th at 11AM

Check out our Channel on Comcast 77 and Verizon Fios 19  
To view our schedule, visit: [www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org)  
And click on “Channel”





A juvenile cormorant looks over the lake for lunch.

PHOTO BY GLORIA A. BROWN



We were sorry to learn about the death of David Myers on November 17, 2016. He was on the initial faculty of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, served 28 years as science department chair and was recognized as Outstanding Science Teacher in 1987.

A hearty Greenbelt welcome to Brian Kim, Public Works’ new assistant director.

Congratulations to Alice Balzer Donahue, who was named one of the DC Most Interesting People of 2016 according to the D.C. City Paper. Alice sings with Granny and The Boys, the Showtime Bar’s house band in D.C.

The fine art photography of former Greenbelter and ERHS alum, David Kressler, is featured in a prominent photo blog, [lenscratch.com/2016/12/david-kressler-viewpoint/](http://lenscratch.com/2016/12/david-kressler-viewpoint/).

Share your news for the next Our Neighbors column by sending details to [kyoho@comcast.net](mailto:kyoho@comcast.net), or call 202-957-3072.

- Karen Yoho

### Snippets from the Past

## Baby Imitates College Boys - Eats Guppy

Little Richard Abele of 1-B Eastway started in to rival the college students last week at an early age. Although only 22 months old, he succeeded in swallowing a guppy alive. He and his mother were calling on Mrs. Robert Whiteman of 6-B Hillside, and Richard’s attention had quickly been attracted to a large tank of these tropical fish containing about 50 or 75, which stood on a low table. On being left alone a minute he seized a small fish net which Mrs. White-

man had handy, scooped out a medium-sized guppy, and swallowed it upon the spot. Mrs. Whiteman glimpsed the tragedy out of the corner of her eye, too late to save her pet. Richard’s mother just refused to believe such a thing had happened until Richard was asked to show what he had done and promptly went after another guppy in the same manner. “Guppy was good” he insisted, as the two horrified ladies thwarted his second attempt.

*From the Co-operator, December 7, 1939.*

### Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410  
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor



Worship Service 10 a.m.  
See you Friday 6:30 at the Cantata!

### Blood Donations

It can’t be wrapped or placed under a tree, but the perfect gift can help save patient lives this holiday season. The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to give the lifesaving gift of a blood donation in December, a time when donations decline but the needs of patients remain steady.

Donors of all blood types are needed this holiday season to help ensure a sufficient supply for hospital patients. To encourage donations, all those who come to donate December 22 through January 8 will receive a long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Donors are encouraged to make appointments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at [redcrossblood.org/rapidpass](http://redcrossblood.org/rapidpass) to save time when donating.

Upcoming blood drives in the Greenbelt area are on December 23 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Diyanet Center of America, 9704 Good Luck Road, Lanham; on December 26 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Knights of Columbus Hall Bowie, 6111 Columbian Way; and on December 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Bowie City Gymnasium, 4100 Northview Drive.

### Greenbelt Community Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org](http://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org)

Sunday Worship  
10:15 a.m.

Rev. Glenyce Grindstaff, Pastor



Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service  
6:30 PM

Christmas Day  
Service  
11:00 AM



#### Greenbelt Baptist Church

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4212

#### Family CHRISTmas Party!

Would you like to help your child learn about the real meaning for Christmas?

Are you ready for your child to learn more about Christmas than Santa Claus and Snowmen and Christmas Trees?

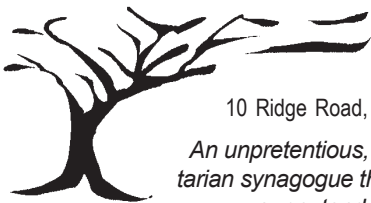
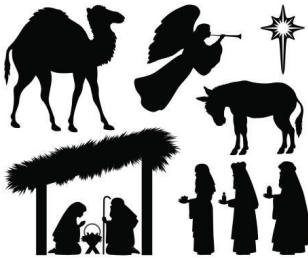
If so, we invite you to bring your child(ren) to a Family CHRISTmas Party at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, on **Saturday, December 18th, 3p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

Through games, crafts, food and songs, you and your child(ren) will come to know what is the real meaning of Christmas - the birth of Jesus.

If you would like more information or would like to register, please call Pastor Mentz at 301-785-0800.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
6905 Greenbelt RD  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

[www.myholycross.org](http://www.myholycross.org) [facebook.com/holycrossgreenbelt](https://www.facebook.com/holycrossgreenbelt)



### Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

*An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.*

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K–12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men’s Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

*Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation*



“See the truth in all religions, for truth is in all & truth is one!”- Baha’i Writings

#### Greenbelt Baha'i Community

1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918  
[Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com](mailto:Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com) [www.greenbeltbahais.org](http://www.greenbeltbahais.org)

### ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH 135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.  
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



December 18 10 a.m.  
"Rock of Ages"

The Reverend Evan Keely, Interim Minister; with Beth Charbonneau, Carol Carter Walker and Abby Wester, Worship Associates; and the Choir

*his winter's Choir Sunday will feature a new cantata, composed for the PBUUC choir, that explores the ancient story behind the celebration of Hanukkah, which begins this year on December 24.*



#### Celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ At Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve - Dec 24th

12:15 p.m. Simple Service of Holy Communion

6:00 p.m. Festive Candlelight Service of Holy Communion  
(Brass, Choir, Nursery Provided)

Christmas Day - Dec 25th

9:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

6905 Greenbelt Rd. 301-345-5111

[www.myholycross.org](http://www.myholycross.org) (Join us on Facebook)

GIVE BLOOD  
GIVE LIFE



Catholic  
Community  
of Greenbelt  
MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.  
Municipal Building

ALL ARE WELCOME.



BROOKS continued from page 1

which occupies the building formerly called Greenbelt Middle School on Edmonston Road). “I could walk but I have too much junk to schlep. We teachers are bag ladies, you know,” Brooks cheerfully claims.

“What do you teach?”

“Comprehension skills: summarizing, visualizing, referencing when they read. They must cite text evidence. They do book reports every month.”

“What kinds of books?”

“We do all the genres.”

“Do they know what ‘genre’ means?”

“Of course! It’s a French word!” Brooks laughs again. “We do oral and written reports on biographies, autobiographies, sci-fi, fantasy literature, realistic fiction . . .”

“Forty years in Prince George’s County and you still have the fire in your belly?”

“Yes, but, the other day I was shopping at Wegman’s and saw four prior students with kids of their own! You know you’ve been around a long time when that happens.”

“Do you remember the Our Miss Brooks TV comedy?”

“Sure.”

“Do you get teased about it?”

“Oh no. Nobody here remembers Eve Arden and her principal Mr. Conklin.”

“Who is Dora Kennedy?”

“She taught for years in Prince George’s County and pushed hard for implementing French immersion 30 years ago. She was instrumental in bringing it to Robert Goddard and Rogers Heights schools.”

Museum Displays Model Trains, Planes

A part of the main gallery at the College Park Aviation Museum is transformed with the arrival of the Holiday Trains & Planes exhibit. From Saturday, December 17 through Friday, December 23, the National Capital Trackers will display a mesmerizing assortment of model trains to the delight of all ages. Trains will travel through a variety of miniature snow villages, depots, tunnels and Christmas scenes, with lighted aquarium cars and gondola cars with ornaments and sparkling lights, early tin plate trains, Fallen Flag freight and passenger trains and more. Visitors may even be able to take the controls at certain points.

The museum and gift shop are open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Regular admission applies for Holiday Trains & Planes. Train displays will be closing at 4 p.m. on Friday, December 23.

There is ample free parking and the museum is a short walk from the College Park Metro Station. Call 301-864-6029 or visit CollegeParkAviationMuseum.com for more information.

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday  
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!  
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

Brooks’ colorful bulletin board features Paul Revere on his horse, a Thanksgiving turkey, classroom rules – Listen Carefully, Respect Others, Be Patient – and a big sign: Respect – Show it and Earn It.

“What’s different about teaching in a French immersion school?”

“It attracts a real social smorgasbord. The children of African parents, Senegalese, say, know three languages – French, English and their tribal tongue. We have African-Americans, Hispanics . . .”

“We have really good parents,” she continues animatedly. “They are very involved. And our French teachers are highly educated. Some have come here from their war-torn native countries and are happy to be teaching in their native tongue here in America. Their stories are amazing, really.”

“And so is yours, Ms. Brooks.”

“Thank you.”

SCHOENDORF continued from page 1

child might be scared because he has a stomachache because he’s had no breakfast. To adults it might seem like no big deal – to him it is. So I try to educate as I assess. I ask, ‘Did you have breakfast? Have you had a couple of glasses of water?’ I’m all about education, all of the time. We talk about nutrition, teeth brushing, wound care, exercise, self-care, being active with their families. Every visit can become an educational moment. I really consider myself an educator rather than a nurse,” she says decisively, smiling.

“Do you speak French with your kids?”

“I speak a little bit, un petit peu, I speak the pleasantries. They are amazingly fluent; their brains are like sponges. My old brain doesn’t absorb languages anymore,” she laughs.

Nurse Tommie’s daughters, now in their 20s, took French immersion in elementary school in Prince George’s County. “It helped them enormously. Emily knows French, took Russian in

sixth, seventh and eighth grades and Chinese in college. Sara knows French and has traveled in Mexico and Guatemala, using her Spanish.

“These kids are comfortable with so many cultures from an early age; they are exposed to an amazing experience. When they travel they don’t feel like outsiders, they are members of the world.”

I notice Nurse Tommie’s posters: Sourire (Smile), Believe in Yourself – You Are a Star! and Be a Nurse – Join the Ones Who Dare.

Nurse, educator, healer, Nurse Tommie dares to help her kids to “be all they can be.”



College Park Caroling

The College Park Arts Exchange announces that Caroling with the Chorale will be held on Thursday, December 22 from 7 to 8 p.m. This is family-friendly neighborhood caroling. Due to the Parish House being closed, College Park Chorale will meet on the path at Amherst and Rhode Island Avenues, then head out to sing for an hour or so. Feel free to bow out when the little ones get tired or to join in late. For more information call 301-927-3013.



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Visually impaired may listen for free

Call Metropolitan Washington Ear  
301-681-6636

No special equipment needed

# City Information

MEETINGS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 19-23

Monday, December 19 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/Green Teams Solar Circle** at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Comcast 71, Verizon 21 and streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Employee Relations Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, and Youth Advisory Committee. For more info: [cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov)

GREENBELT CONCERT BAND

HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONCERT

Greenbelt Community Center Gym

Sunday, December 18, 4:00pm, FREE

Hear all your holiday favorites played live by the members of your community band.

FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

Thursday, January 5, 2017

2:30pm-3:30pm

Springhill Lake Elementary School

6060 Springhill Drive, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Bring your own bags and rolling carts

Please come to the front entrance of the school no earlier than 2:15 pm and wait to be directed into the school to line up by the gym.

Holiday Grief and Loss Support Group

Sponsored by Greenbelt CARES

Monday December 19

7 – 8:30 pm

Municipal Building

25 Crescent Rd

Questions?

Call 301 345-6660 x2018

THE SNOW QUEEN

Saturday, December 17

3:00-4:00pm

Greenbelt Community Center Gym

15 Crescent Road

FREE

The Greenbelt Dance Studio, a program of Greenbelt Department of Recreation, presents an original production of Hans Christian Anderson’s *The Snow Queen*. The inspiration for the movie *Frozen*, *The Snow Queen* tells the story of a brave young girl who rescues her best friend from the clutches of the cold-hearted Snow Queen. Our production features a talented cast of over twenty performers ages 5 and up performing a range of dance styles including ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary and more.



# When you need high-quality health care, we're here for you... And here. And here.

We put the *community* in Doctors Community Hospital with healthcare services conveniently located throughout Prince George's County. So, you don't need to leave your neighborhood to get high-quality medical care.

**As a healthcare leader, our experienced and compassionate professionals provide exceptional care:**

- + Joslin Diabetes Center – the only multidisciplinary program in the county accredited by the American Diabetes Association
- + Bariatric and Weight Loss Center – the county's first hospital to provide bariatric weight loss options using the da Vinci® surgical robot
- + Center for Comprehensive Breast Care – the first program in the county with a dedicated breast surgeon
- + Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services – the area's largest lymphedema program

**In fact, we have a broad range of medical and surgical services that also include:**

- + Cardiology Services and Outpatient Vascular Studies
- + Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine
- + Comprehensive Orthopedic Services
- + Doctors Community Breast Center
- + Doctors Community Rehabilitation and Patient Care Center (transitional care)
- + Doctors Community Surgical Associates
- + Doctors Regional Cancer Center
- + Emergency Department (24/7)
- + Imaging Services
- + Infusion Center
- + Primary Care Services (Bowie, District Heights, Greenbelt, Landover Hills, Lanham, Laurel and Riverdale)
- + Sleep Center
- + Vascular Health Program

**For more than 40 years, Doctors Community Hospital has provided comprehensive and high-quality care. We'll continue to be here when you need us . . . wherever in Prince George's County you happen to be.**



Contact us today for more information or to schedule an appointment.  
**301-DCH-4YOU | 301-324-4968**



Main Campus  
8118 Good Luck Road  
Lanham, Maryland 20706  
**DCHweb.org**



# Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club Hits 40

by Konrad Herling



Former Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club Presidents pose at the dinner. From left: Judith Davis, Bob Zugby, Ann Castaldi, Matt Inzeo (representing his father Jim Inzeo), Kurt Walter, Stuart Gordon, Ed Terry, Karl Shippis, and Emmett Jordan.

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club celebrated its 40th anniversary on November 20 with wonderful food, music by the D.C. Labor Chorus that featured a song about the importance of paying a living wage, a well-deserved recognition of past presidents and a thoughtful and moving keynote address by Congressman Steny Hoyer. The event, attended by over 100 people, was held at the Greenbelt American Legion. The uplifting program helped pick up the spirits of the Democrats who, while winning Maryland's U.S. Senate and congressional seats, lost in its bid to have Hillary Clinton succeed two-term Democratic president, Barack Obama.

Briefly, the history of the club reads like this: 40 years ago, there were two Democratic clubs, one in Franklin Park, then Springhill Lake, the other with folks from the balance of Greenbelt. Dorothy Rothgeb worked with both groups to merge them into one club. It was first named The Franklin & Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club but after extensive discussion, it was changed to the Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club. Charles Sokol was the group's first president. Serving as vice presidents were Tom White, Robert White and Marcia Krasnic.

Several of the club's previous presidents were able to attend and were acknowledged: Ann Gordon Castaldi, Bill Hunt, Bob Zugby, Judith Davis, Emmett Jordan, Stuart Jordan, Kurt Walter, Jim Inzeo represented by his son Matt Inzeo, Ed Terry and Karl Shippis. Each received a special club pin for their contributions to the club. Additionally, the club thanked Janette Gordy, representing the Greenbriar Community Association, for making its facilities available as the "place to be" for most of the club's Friday evening gatherings.

The club continues under the



The D.C. Labor Chorus sings at the Democratic Club dinner.



Steny Hoyer gives the keynote address at the 40th Anniversary of the Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club.

strong leadership of President Nicole Williams and an active board of directors to provide excellent speakers and programs on a wide array of issues ranging from health care to civil rights, education to the environment, as well as picnics, evenings at the movie theater and ballgames at the Bowie Baysox ballpark.

The club's next membership meeting will be Friday evening, December 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the

Greenbriar Community Building, 7600 Hanover Parkway. There will be elections for the new board and discussion about where the Democrats go from here, as well as some good food and good friends.

To learn more about the club and how to become a member or help out, call 202-321-4207 or visit [rooseveltclub.com](http://rooseveltclub.com) or Facebook at Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club.

## Annual Art and Craft Fair



Ed Cook serves chili dogs at the Greenbelt Arts Center café at the annual Art and Craft Fair in the Community Center on December 3 and 4.

Photos by Helen Sydavar



Puppets and decorated gourds were among the items for sale at the annual Festival of Lights Art and Craft Fair. Over 70 vendors participated in the event.

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COUNCIL continued from page 1

monthly rent, in addition to other criteria.

Greenbelt is one of 18 municipal participants in the Prince George’s County Municipal Collaboration, which was formed to obtain grant funding from state agencies in support of energy efficiency upgrades for low and moderate income homeowners. A resolution is needed to renew the city’s support and enable it to receive funding.

A resolution to authorize the purchase of a Dodge Grand Caravan Touring Edition from Criswell Automotive of Gaithersburg at a cost of \$29,332 is needed to expend funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to purchase a van for use in the Green Ridge House service coordinator and the Greenbelt Assistance in Living programs.

These three items will return for second reading, discussion and action at the next regular council meeting on December 12.

City Voting Age

At its worksession on November 2 with the Youth Advisory Committee, one of the topics of discussion was the committee’s recommendation that the voting age for city elections be lowered to 16. The city council directed that this topic be placed on the next regular meeting agenda so action could be taken on determining next steps. A motion by Davis was adopted to refer the committee’s report to the Community Relations Advisory Board and the Advisory Committee on Education for their review. Also

included in the motion was that a public hearing would be scheduled at a later time.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts said he thought the matter should be placed on the ballot in November as an advisory question rather than having the council decide without letting residents vote on it. Mayor Emmett Jordan said he was also inclined to go that route.

Naming Policy

As part of its planned capital campaign to assist with the renovation of the new museum space at 10-A Crescent Road, the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM) asked for council approval of naming opportunities, through which indoor spaces could be named for donors for a time not to exceed 20 years.

Davis said she could support the proposal presented if naming were limited to indoor areas and to individuals rather than corporations. Some concern was expressed about avoiding a conflict with the long-standing practice of the city not to name buildings or facilities for individuals, although that had been done in Greenbelt’s earlier days.

Jen Ruffner, president of FOGM, pointed out that the condition that nothing would be named for more than 20 years would in part address that concern, since nothing would be permanent. With the exception of some limited garden areas not visible from the street, their intention was to use only inside spaces for naming opportunities.

Roberts objected strongly to

allowing naming, describing it as “very elitist” and saying he found it inappropriate for city property. Although Davis continued to have some reservations, a motion to approve the policy carried 6-1 with Roberts voting against it.

Support Letter for NLC

Ema Smith, chair of the Youth Advisory Committee, is seeking appointment to the Council on Youth, Education and Families of the National League of Cities (NLC). Among the requirements for applying is a support letter from the city that includes a commitment to fund the recipient’s expenses to attend three NLC conferences, two of which are always held in D.C. The city council voted to approve the letter and funding with the condition that Smith present a report following each meeting.

City Legislative Program

Each year the city council hosts a dinner with its state and county representatives to discuss legislative priorities for the upcoming session of the General Assembly. Proposed priorities agreed to by councilmembers for discussion include, in order of priority: support for locating the FBI headquarters at Greenbelt Station; funding for the long-ago developed streetscape improvements for Greenbelt Road; and support for a possible bond bill for the Greenbelt Lake dam. Two additional priorities were support for funding for the Youth Services Bureaus, of which Greenbelt CARES is one, and assuring that Greenbelt children can attend Greenbelt schools.

City to Receive Grant For Gateway Signage

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development announced on November 30 that Greenbelt will receive a Community Legacy Award in the amount of \$50,000, to be used for gateway signage at key locations at entrances to the city.

The Community Legacy program provides local governments and community development organizations with essential funding and gap financing for projects that will strengthen local communities, support housing and homeownership goals, and attract and retain businesses. Projects include improving commercial facades, greening and street-scaping activities, renovating historic buildings for conversion into service or community centers and rehabilitating blighted properties in downtown areas.

County Presents Strategic Plan for Zero-waste Effort

by Erin Josephitis

On December 6, more than 60 individuals attended the Prince George’s County zero-waste informational public meeting at the Old Greenbelt Theatre. Representatives from the county Department of the Environment led an informational presentation about the draft Zero Waste Strategic Plan, followed by an audience Q & A and comment session.

The presentation covered three main reasons why Prince George’s County is ideally poised to adopt the practices of zero waste: (1) the landfill capacity will be exhausted in 2028; (2) the recent Waste Characterization Report finds that 75 percent of the waste disposed of at the landfill is divertible; (3) residents and officials are enthusiastic about this approach to managing waste as a valued commodity.

The event was zero waste thanks to volunteers from Eleanor Roosevelt High School and the Green Team’s Zero Waste Circle, working in partnership with the Department of Public Works. A prototype zero-waste station was built by Public Works to provide easy access to separate materials and properly dispose of liquid, recyclable, compostable and landfill waste. A short film

was featured at the end of the meeting to raise awareness of the theater’s efforts and commitment to zero waste.

Achieving zero waste entails encouraging the county, its municipalities, its residents, businesses and visitors to re-evaluate what is considered waste. The value of recyclable paper and containers alone disposed of at the Brown Station Road Sanitary Landfill is estimated to be over \$9.7 million annually. Recovering these materials, as well as compostable and divertible materials from the waste stream, and placing them back into the economy will have a significant impact on local revenue, job creation and business expansion.

The county’s draft Zero Waste Strategic Plan can be reviewed online at princegeorgescountymd.gov. Written comments may be submitted until January 19 to Darryl Flick, at zerowasteplan@co.pg.md.us. Be sure to reference Zero Waste Strategic Plan in the subject line. Comments may also be mailed to Prince George’s County Department of the Environment, 1801 McCormick Drive, Largo, MD 20774, attn: Darryl Flick.



Prince George's County is Number 1 in waste diversion.



The county presentation on Zero Waste.

Photos by Erin Josephitis

TAX MIX-UP continued from page 1

cities who must repay funds, the 10-year repayment period established by Franchot will not begin until 2024 and will run through 2033. As a point of reference, the approximately \$10,400 per year that will be deducted by the state from Greenbelt’s income tax revenues annually, starting in seven years, would represent less than half of one percent if applied to the city’s Fiscal Year 2016 taxes.

Franchot says the problem is rooted in the fact that Maryland is unlike any other state in its collecting of local income taxes on behalf of all of the state’s counties, municipalities and special taxing districts as part of the taxpayer’s state income tax form. While this system simplifies matters for the taxpayer, it complicates them for the state. Cities and towns set their own tax rates, and many areas have special tax districts that have irregular boundaries. Although the state collected the right amounts from taxpayers, its aging software did not always classify the taxpayers within the correct taxing districts for purposes of the distribution.

Although the city was not notified of the specific problem that had occurred in its case, one of the tax software limitations cited by Franchot was that old geocoding software relies too heavily on zip codes, rather than street address, to identify the taxpayer’s municipality or taxing district. Williams noted that there are a good number of households with the Greenbelt 20770 zip code that do not reside within the city limits, primarily in Greenbelt East. It is probable that taxes collected

by the state from these addresses were incorrectly forwarded to Greenbelt.

Now that the problems have been identified, the comptroller’s office will be upgrading and improving both its technology and its procedures in order to assure the accuracy of the distribution of local tax money in the future.

“This review has been an instructive process for us in the comptroller’s office, providing an opportunity to redouble our commitment to improve the way we deliver results on behalf of Maryland’s taxpayers,” said Franchot.

Still, it might have been nice if the city had received a \$104,000 refund rather than a bill. But hey . . . wait till next year!



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**MORE TASTE LESS WASTE**





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**FALL GUTTER CLEANING SCHEDULE**

Gilbert Construction & DCG Gutter Cleaning are the contractors performing GHI’s fall gutter cleaning and inspections.

The week beginning December 26<sup>th</sup>, work will be in this approximate area (weather permitting):

**Woodland Way Courts 1-8**  
**133 Greenhill Rd**  
**Hillside Courts 19-22**  
**GDC Garages**

During that time, workers will be on ladders around buildings. Please close your window shades to preserve your privacy.

You may contact Peter Joseph at (301) 474-4161 ext. 141 or email [pjoseph@ghi.coop](mailto:pjoseph@ghi.coop) if you have any questions or comments.



# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, [www.greenbeltmd.gov/police](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police)  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

**Robbery**  
December 4, 5:18 p.m., 200 block Lakeside Drive. An adolescent reported that a teen he was familiar with and three others forcibly took his jacket and cell phone. The four of them followed him home. When his father opened the door, the teen and three others fled, leaving the jacket and cell phone.

**Theft**  
December 7, 11:39 a.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. An unattended cell phone was taken from a self-checkout station at Safeway.

**Fraud**  
November 30, 5:24 p.m., 6200 block Greenbelt Road. A woman reported that when she was at Capital One Bank on November 18 a man approached her and asked her to cash a check for him. He told her he would let her keep a portion of the money for her troubles. She agreed, cashed the check and gave him the money. She learned later that the check was fraudulent. The man is described as black, 25 to 30 years old with a medium build, short hair in “twists” and a tattoo on the side of his neck. No reason was given for the delay in reporting the incident.

December 2, 2:10 p.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. A woman observed two people acting suspiciously near the automatic teller machine by the entrance of Safeway, standing in front of it as if to block passersby from seeing its front. They then claimed to have found a credit card skimming device on the ATM, as one of them dropped it on the ground upon seeing the woman. The device was recovered by an officer and the investigation is ongoing.

**Counterfeit Money**  
December 3, 8:06 a.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace. A taxi driver picked up a woman in the 8400 block Greenbelt Road and drove her to her destination. She paid the fare with what turned out to be a counterfeit bill.

**Burglary**  
November 29, 5 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. A tile cutter, vent registers and cabinetry were removed from a vacant apartment undergoing renovation.

**Vandalism**  
December 7, 10:43 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. A man threw a fire extinguisher through the glass patio door of a residence during a verbal altercation and left the area. He is known by the person living there.

December 7, 11:14 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. The bedroom window of a vacant apartment was broken out.

**Vehicle Crime**  
A 2015 Kia Soul SUV stolen December 1 from the 6200 block Springhill Court was recovered December 6 by D.C. Metropolitan police in the 4200 block Burroughs Avenue, NE, in Washington, D.C.

A 2001 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup stolen from the 5900 block Cherrywood Lane on December 6 was recovered the same day in the 6900 block Freeport Street, Hyattsville.

A 2001 Cadillac Catera stolen November 11, 2014 from the 7700 block Hanover Parkway was recovered December 1 by Prince George’s County police in the 1700 block Quarter Avenue in Capitol Heights. The tags on the vehicle at the time of theft, Md. 8BL6820, were not recovered and are still out as stolen.

A 2001 Ford Econoline van stolen December 4 from 25 Court Ridge Road was recovered the same day by Prince George’s County police in the 3600 block Tyrol Drive, Glenarden.

Two rear tags were stolen, Md. 8CN5014 in the 7500 block Hanover Parkway and Fla. 702NVI in the 9000 block Breezewood Terrace.

A handicap placard was taken in the 7700 block Hanover Parkway after the front passenger window was broken out.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.  
Call 1-866-411-TIPS.  
People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.

## City Animal Control Staff Rescues Abused Kitten

An abused kitten was rescued by Greenbelt Animal Control on Friday, December 9 in an apartment basement in Franklin Park. The malnourished kitten, covered in feces and urine, covered by a sump pump, her neck bound by a plugged-in power cord. “I felt like someone was trying to kill the cat,” Animal Control Officer Howard Stanback told ABC’s Channel 7 on Monday evening.

“The kitten did not appear to be injured, but looked somewhat malnourished and neglected. It is currently being cared for in our animal shelter,” reported George Mathews, public information liaison for the Greenbelt Police Department. Anyone with infor-

mation regarding this incident is asked to contact Greenbelt Animal Control at 301-474-6124.



Greenbelt Animal Shelter personnel rescue a kitten from a Franklin Park basement.

# Greenbelt History in Photos

## Hamilton’s Purchase in 1768

by James Giese

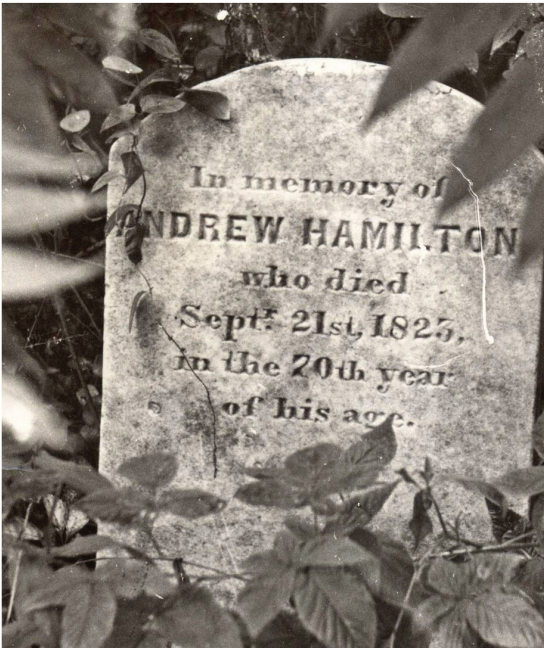
(This is the eighth in a series of historic photograph presentations that help tell the story of Greenbelt’s early history. The photo of the Andrew Hamilton gravestone is courtesy Greenbelt Museum from its collection of photographs first published in *Greenbelt: History of a New Town, 1937-87*, edited by Mary Lou Williamson, and the photo of the cemetery display case of markers by Kyla Hanington (News Review issue of October 15, 2015). Much of the information is obtained from the Greenbelt book’s prologue which was written by Alan Virta.)

John Hamilton patented Hamilton’s Purchase in 1768. The 240-acre property included much of Greenbelt East as well as what is now the city’s forest preserve west of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. Andrew Hamilton (1755-1825), whose gravestone is pictured here, was a man of local prominence, serving as a justice of the peace and a supervisor of roads. Hamilton Place leads to the family graveyard beyond the paved road to the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. maintenance yard.

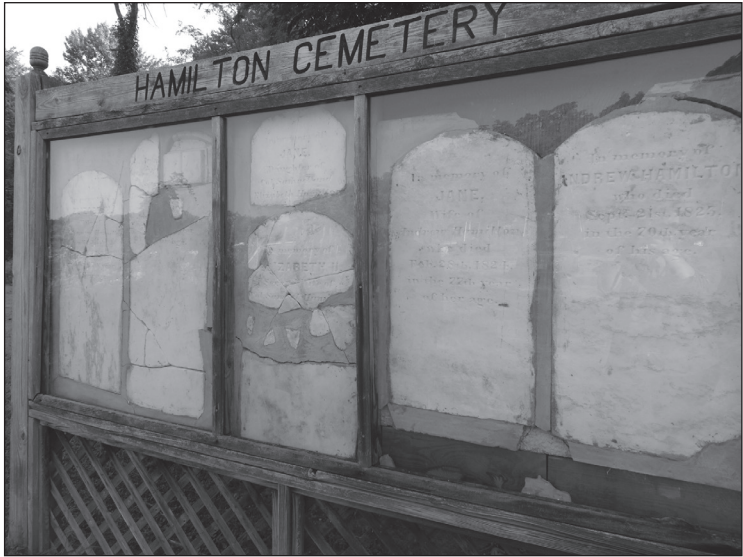
I was told by early city employee Buddy Attick that when Greenbelt was built a farmhouse called the Oldham Farm was left standing at the end of Hamilton Place. Jasper Oldham was a long-time early city employee. I do not know if this was the original Hamilton home. The house was later removed, possibly when the Baltimore-Washington Parkway was built.

Early residents established community garden areas and these were particularly promoted during World War II as Victory Gardens. One was located next

to the Hamilton graveyard and it is still being gardened today by residents. While the cemetery had many old gravestones, they were being stolen or broken until the city removed and stored those remaining. It is said that gardeners would use pieces of these stones to weigh down their plows. The stones have now been put in a display case at the cemetery.



The Andrew Hamilton gravestone



Some of the stones of the Hamilton Cemetery were placed inside this case to prevent further erosion.  
-News Review, October 15, 2015.

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!!

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BOXED: \$9.60 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$14.40). Deadline 4 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 8 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.



**Send Holiday Greetings**

The News Review will publish holiday greetings in the December 22 issue.



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# Greenbelt Foundation Names Three New Board Members

by Lois Rosado

The Greenbelt Community Foundation just completed celebrating its 10th anniversary with the Explore Your Greenbelt campaign that highlighted many foundation grantees. Moving forward, the following individuals have joined the board of directors:

Jean Cook is currently the president of the Greenbelt Inter-generational Volunteer Exchange Service (GIVES). She has directed the Greenbelt Combined Choir since the mid-seventies, delivers Meals-on-Wheels and is co-chair of senior activities at her church. She is also on the Mission Board and has co-led 20 Habitat for Humanity trips, mostly to Latin America.

Carolyn Lambright-Davis serves on the board of the Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS). She has lived in Greenbelt for seven years. During that time her focus has been on organizing after-school youth programs and reestablishing the Earth Squad that maintains a CHEARS Three Sisters Community Garden near the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. She is very active in her church, Eastern Community, where she teaches Sunday school and is the marriage ministry coordinator.

Stacie Johnson has been a resident of Greenbelt since 2014 and is a litigation paralegal in Columbia. She is an active member and officer of the Prince George's County League of Women Voters. She is excited about making a contribution to her community by maintaining the financial and operational standards of the foundation.

The following board members were elected to serve for the next year: chair, Melissa Ehrenreich; vice-chair, Carol Shaw; treasurer, Stacie Johnson; secretary, Jean Cook.

Congratulations to the new board officers and to their leadership during the coming year.

The Greenbelt Community Foundation fundraising drive is in full swing, so remember to send contributions and continue to support local non-profit organizations and to Explore Your Greenbelt.



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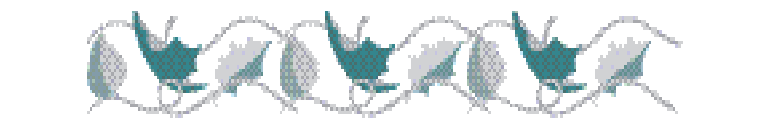
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# The Arts Center Again Hosts Concert on New Year's Eve

by Konrad Herling

A Greenbelt New Year's Program – An Evening With Friends returns for the fourth year to the Greenbelt Arts Center on New Year's Eve. The program is still under development, but past shows co-produced with Susan Barnett have included musical and other performances, technical demonstrations and interviews with Greenbelt notables.

So far the confirmed performers include Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan, who studied saxophone and flute at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. He has since picked up guitar, and will be playing a selection of Brazilian and jazz guitar music. Other performers include Greenbelt Station resident and Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability member Patricia Walters, who has played violin since age 14 and may play the Meditation from the Massenet opera Thaïs, and Daphne Jackson, who will play a duet with Wal-



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**SOLD**

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**SOLD**

**Brick Townhome** - Estate Sale - 2 BR GHI home. Completely remodeled top to bottom. New appls, cabs, ceramic tile, refin. flrs... Priced to sell at \$149,900

**Brick Townhome - Corner Lot** - Completely remodeled 3 BR GHI townhome with ref. hardwood floors upstairs. Fenced Backyard with Trex deck.  
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**1 BR - Lower Level - Corner Lot** - Raised deck that overlooks protected woodlands. Forested yard with fire pit & large seating area. Shed & workbench!  
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**SOLD**

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# Students Gain Perspective Through Tour of Old Town

by Lindsey Wright

I graduated from Eleanor Roosevelt High School in 2014. My journey everyday consisted of a 20-minute bus ride to various spots around Hyattsville before finally reaching the school in Greenbelt. Not living particularly close to Old Greenbelt, I was content to move through it, forgetting every situation in which we were brought together.

Allow me to reminisce about some of those moments.

While trying to kill time before a play at our school, my friends and I walked to Old Greenbelt. That afternoon, four hungry high schoolers shared one helping of the tastiest fries all drizzled in ketchup. Another time an English project sent us to Greenbelt Library where we spent all day filming a rap about Hamlet. (This was four years ago, before any of us had ever heard of Hamilton!) My visits to Old Greenbelt were not isolated incidents; sports workouts caught me running on these sidewalks on more than one occasion. And still after all these moments I had not truly opened my eyes to the beauty that existed in this town. That lesson came later, when I was a junior in college.

As one of our last ecosystem ecology labs, Dr. Peter May of the University of Maryland, took us to Old Greenbelt to show us how a town could be successfully built to foster economic and environmental sustainability. My first thought when I reached the meeting spot in the town center was that, even though I had been here before, I never realized there was a supermarket. The idea of grocery shopping without ever having to get in a car seemed unbelievable. And then there was the movie theater. An old timey movie theater is such a novel concept and I could not believe that before this day I had never set foot inside.

The town had everything one would need: food, banking, a library, live music. Most importantly, it had a shared sense of respect for place. Everyone we encountered seemed genuinely happy to be a part of the town, whether it was the manager of the New Deal Café or the people doing yoga in the hall. In the four years of high school that I spent so close to this town, I never saw what gave it life. And now in college, to realize that all the best aspects of the town



Lindsey Wright and her classmates shoot scenes for their Hamlet rap at the Greenbelt Library.

were planned, makes its entire existence that much cooler.

During our tour Dr. May told us the history of the town, how its construction was a means of alleviating unemployment for people during the Depression. And how its design was supposed to limit the use of cars while increasing the human to human interaction. He also told us about the segregation that was upheld in the distribution of housing for families trying to move to the town. This town was not initiated on the grounds of equitable development and that fact is upsetting but important to talk about. The history that exists here could not be fully understood on a two-hour walking tour, but I hope the community center will provide a hub for that truth.

As we finished the tour and walked back to our cars, I saw the sign for Generous Joe's. I would have loved to stop in and order fries and douse the whole arrangement in ketchup, but I had to get back to school. It is an activity I will proudly save for another day, with new friends who I hope will see this town through the new lens that I have.

Lindsey Wright is a student at the University of Maryland majoring in Environmental Science and Technology, and Government and Politics.

## Botanic Garden Offers Irish Rock Concert

On Thursday, December 22 from 6 to 8 p.m. the U.S. Botanic Garden invites the public to attend Irish Rock, a free concert by 40 Thieves. Come for live seasonal music in the Garden Court. Limited seating will be available on a first come, first served basis.

# Community as Ecosystem

by Amy Wherry

On November 30, the Ecosystem Ecology class from the University of Maryland attended a walking tour of Greenbelt with Dr. Peter May. This was my first visit to Greenbelt and my first visit to a cooperative. I have visited coop grocery stores in the past, but did not understand the importance of a community cooperative. As we walked through Greenbelt, I could sense the interconnected community that was among us. In fact, it reminded me of living on campus and how my relationships with the community around me made me feel not only safe but like I had a purpose there. It also reminded me of living on campus by having all of my necessities within walking distance.

As we learned in the following class with Dr. May, small communities and ecosystems like these flourish most, especially when they have the input of the population. The ability to have a voice in the community plays a tremendous part in making it a place where members want to stay and others want to visit; it also plays a role in the success of the community. Greenbelt has done a spectacular job in mimicking natural ecosystem ecology by incorporating walking paths that not only encourage travel within the community, but make traveling safe. Greenbelt has created an environment that supports physi-

cal and mental health through providing easily accessible places like the library, community center, community gym, movie theater, restaurants, outdoor activities and so much more. Thank you for showing me that a community can work together, such as an ecosystem does, to support maturation into a habitable place for people to work, live and play.

Amy Wherry is a student at the University of Maryland majoring in Environmental Health.

# Watkins Nature Center Offers Kids Programs

Watkins Nature Center, 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, is offering a variety of programs with activities that encourage youth to learn about and connect with nature. Enjoy Nature Craft, a hands-on project, on Saturday, December 17 from 10 to 11 a.m. On Friday, December 23 from 2 to 3 p.m., watch a puppet show and then meet a live animal. Meet the Animals on Saturday, December 24 from 10 to 11 a.m. There is a nominal fee per person and reservations are required. For more information call 301-218-6702.

# Santa and Elves Visit City



The City of Greenbelt elves helped Santa greet families and children on December 10 in the Youth Center. Top, from left: Darius Ross, Brenna Lauer, Santa, Leila Dawson. Bottom, from left: Clark Reese, Melanie Kyllis, Quinn Valentich.

## National Gallery Offers Irish Music

The National Gallery of Art will present a free concert featuring Danu, A Christmas Gathering: Féile Na Nollag, on Sunday, December 18 at 2 p.m. and again at 4 p.m. This concert in the West Building, West Garden Court also includes local Irish dancers.

## Harmony Hall Offers Free Dunamis Concert

The Prince George's Department of Parks and Recreation will sponsor a free concert by Dunamis on Saturday, December 17 at 8 p.m. at Harmony Hall Regional Center in Fort Washington. Dunamis offers music with fresh, creative sounds combining all genres of music. Call 301-203-6070 (TTY 301-699-2544) for more information.

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